

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5-7, and 14 were rejected and claims 2-18 were objected to in the Office Action dated December 16, 2003. Claims 1 and 5-7 have been amended to correct indefiniteness rejections for use of the phrase "and/or." Further, Applicants have amended claims 4-18 to correct the improper multiple dependent format.

II. Rejection of Claims 1 and 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2

Claims 1 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 as being indefinite. Particularly, the Office states that Applicant's use of the phrase "and/or" renders the claims indefinite because "it is unclear whether the limitation(s) following the phrase are part of the claimed invention." In response, Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 5-7 to remove the phrase "and/or." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

III. Rejection of Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 as being indefinite. The Office states that the term/phrase "parting compounds" is unclear. Applicants traverse this rejection.

The term/phrase "parting compounds" is a direct translation of the German word "Trennmittel." Applicants have attached a copy of an excerpt from an English/German dictionary for the Examiner's convenience. This term/phrase has recognized meaning

in the art, and synonymous translations include "mold release" or "release agent." The term/phrase "parting compound" has been used by Applicants within the specification at page 8. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

IV. Objection to Claims 2 and 3 as Dependent Upon Rejected Base Claim

The Examiner has objected to Claims 2 and 3 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Rejected Claim 1, upon which Claims 2 and 3 were dependent, has been amended. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

V. Objection to Claims 4-18 under 37 CFR 1.75(c)

The Examiner has objected to Claim 4 as being in improper form because "a multiple dependent claim should refer to other claims in the alternative only and cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claims." In response, Applicants have amended Claim 4 to correct the improper multiple dependency. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has further objected to Claims 4-18 under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper multiple-dependent form. In response, Applicants have amended Claims 4-18. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

VI. Conclusion

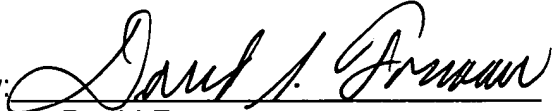
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 16, 2004

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Attachments: Excerpt from German/English dictionary

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- Transphosphatase *f* transphosphatase
 Transphosphorylase *f* transphosphorylase
 Transphosphorylierung *f* transphosphorylation
 Transport *m* transport[ation], shipment; transfer, transmission
 Transportband *n* conveyer [belt], carrier roller
 Transporteur *m* shipper, carrier, (Geom) protractor
 Transportfilz *m* (Papier) conveyor felt
 Transportgefäß *n* transport vessel
 transportieren *to* transport
 Transportkarren *m* transfer car
 Transportkasten *m* transport case, portable box, transport box
 Transportkontrolle *f* transfer check
 Transportmittel *n* means of transportation
 Trans-Stellung *f* (Stereochem) trans position
 Transthiolierung *f* transthioation
 Transuran *n* transuranic element, transuranium element
 Transuranelemente *pl* transuranium elements
 transversal transversal, transverse
 Transversale *f* transversal
 Transversalitätsbedingung *f* transversality condition
 Transversalschwingung *f* transverse oscillation
 Transversalwelle *f* transverse wave
 transzendent transcendental
 Trapez *n* trapezoid
 trapezförmig trapeziform, trapezoidal
 Trapezgewinde *n* acme thread, tapered thread
 Trapezoeder *n* (Krist) trapezohedron
 Trapezregel *f* trapezoidal rule
 Trapezring *m* trapezoidal washer
 Trapporphyr *m* (Min) porphyritic trap
 Trappsandstein *m* (Min) trap sandstone
 Trapptuff *m* trap tuff
 Traß *m* trass, volcanic tuff
 Traßbeton *m* trass concrete
 Traßpapier *n* grey wrapping paper
 Traubenachat *m* (Min) botryoid agate
 traubenartig grapelike
 Traubenblei *n* (Min) mimetite
 Traubenessig *m* grape vinegar
 Traubengärung *f* fermentation of grapes
 Traubensäure *f* (obs. für Weinsäure) tartaric acid, racemische ~ racemic acid
 Traubensaft *m* grape juice
 Traubenstein *m* (Min) botryolite
 Traubenzucker *m* d-glucose, grape sugar
 Traufe *f* down spout
 Traumaticin *n* traumaticin[e]
 Traumatinsäure *f* traumatic acid
 Traversellit *m* (Min) traversellite
 Travertin *m* (Min) travertine
 Treberbranntwein *m* marc brandy
 treffen *to* hit, to strike, (begegnen) to meet
 Treffer *m* hit
 Treffertheorie *f* hit theory
 Trefferwahrscheinlichkeit *f* probability of hits
 Treffplatte *f* target
 Treffpunkt *m* point of impact, point of incidence
 Trehalase *f* (Biochem) trehalase
 Trehalose *f* trehalose
 Treibachse *f* driving axle
 Treibarbeit *f* (Metall) cupellation
 Treibdampfpumpe *f* booster type diffusion pump
 Treibdüse *f* booster nozzle
 Treibeisen *n* white pig iron
 treiben *to* drive, to push, (gären) to ferment, (hämmern) to emboss
 Treibgas *n* power gas
 Treibhaus *n* green-house, hot-house
 Treibmittel *n* (Pumpe) pump fluid, (Schaumstoff) aerating agent, blowing agent, expanding agent, foaming agent
 Treibmittelfüllung *f* (Pumpe) pump fluid filling
 Treibmittelrücklauf *m* (Pumpe) pump fluid return pipe
 Treiböl *n* (Motor) motor fuel oil
 Treibofen *m* cupell[ing] furnace, refining furnace
 Treibprozeß *m* (Metall) cupellation, refining
 Treibriemen *m* drive belt, driving belt, transmission belting
 Treibschwefel *m* native sulfur
 Treibstoff *m* fuel, power fuel, propellant
 Treibstoffpumpe *f* fuel pump
 Treibstoffraum *m* fuel cell
 Treibstoffsynthese *f* motor fuel synthesis
 Treibstoffzusatz *m* additive for fuels
 Treibstrahl *m* driving jet, power jet
 Treibverfahren *n* (Metall) cupellation, refining process
 Treibzapfen *m* crank pin
 Treitan *n* threitan
 Tremolit *m* (Min) tremolite
 Tremuloidin *n* tremuloidin
 Trennanlage *f*, chemische ~ chemical separation plant
 trennbar separable
 Trennblech *n* baffle
 Trenneinsatz *m* partition
 trennen *to* separate, to sever, (auflösen) to resolve, (Elektr) to disconnect
 Trennen *n* separating, dividing, (Elektr) disconnecting
 Trenner *m* separator
 Trennfaktor *m* separation factor, theoretischer ~ (Atom) ideal separation factor
 Trennfestigkeit *f* resistance to separation
 Trennfuge *f* partition line, parting compound line, der Blasform blow mold parting line, der Form mold parting line
 Trennisolator *m* disconnecting insulator
 Trennlinie *f* separating line
 Trennmittel *n* mold release, parting compound, release agent
 Trennmuffe *f* disconnecting box
 Trennrohr *n* (Atom) separator tube
 Trennsäule *f* separating column, separation column
 Trennschärfe *f* discrimination, selectivity, separating capacity, separation sharpness
 Trennschleuder *f* centrifuge separator
 Trennschnitt *m* (Schweiß) separating cut
 Trennstellung *f* spacing position
 Trennung *f* disintegration, parting, severing, (Chem.) separation, (durch Filtrieren) filtering, (Teilung)